

REMARKS

Summary of the Official Action

In the instant Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings, objected to claim 1, rejected claims 1-4, 9, and 13 as being indefinite and rejected claim 1 and 2 as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) by Adelman, 3,537,687. The Examiner considered Adelman to be disclosing the invention as recited in claims 1 and 2.

Furthermore, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 13 under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by Desard, 6,368,013. The Examiner considered Desard to be disclosing the invention as recited in claims 1 and 13.

Lastly, the Examiner rejected claim 4 as being unpatentable over Desard, 6,368,013. The Examiner considered it obvious to place the connecting portions on either the inner side or the outer side to allow for the connection.

Response

Claim 1-4, 9, 11 and 13 were elected in the election on January 10, 2006, and claim 1 has been amended. Claims 2, 3, 4, 9, 11 and 13 have been cancelled. The limitations of claim 9 have been essentially incorporated into claim 1. That is, claim 1 is now a combination of the original version of claim 1 and claim 9.

In amended claim 1, the body is a rectangular body and has four sides, a thickness and at least three connecting portions extending respectively from sides of the rectangular body.

The Examiner stated that claim 11 not readable upon the elected species because the elected species dose not contain an L-shaped body with at least three connecting portions.

Responsive to this, with the cancellation of claim 11, the rejection to claims 11 has been inherently rendered moot.

The Examiner stated that the drawings are objected to under 37CFR1.83 (a). Responsive to this, in amended claim 1, the body has been amended to be rectangular and has four sides, the drawings of Figures 7A and 7B in this invention have shown every feature (rectangular body and four sides) of the invention specified in amended claim 1. With the amendment of claim 1, the objection to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83 has been rendered moot.

The suggested corrections of claim 1 have been made, i.e., --the-- has been inserted before “ends” and “at least one connecting portion” has been amended as the connecting portions.

The Examiner stated that claims 1 to 4, 9 and 13 are objected to under 35 U.S.C 112. Responsive to this, the “do-it- yourself” limitation has been deleted from amended claim 1 and claims 2 to 4, 9 and 13 have been canceled. Thus, the rejection of claims 2 to 4, 9 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 112 has been rendered moot.

The Examiner stated that claim 1 is rejected to under 35U.S.C. 102(b).

Responsive to this, in amended claim 1 of this invention, at least three connecting portions are formed on the rectangular body. The block (10) disclosed by Adelman only has a left end shoulder portion (14) and a right end shoulder portion (16) (lines 11 to 12 on page 5) formed at opposite ends of the central body portion (12) (lines 73 to 75 on page 10). Therefore, Adelman defines the end shoulder portions (14, 16) as being formed at opposite ends of the central body portion (12) and does not disclose that the block (10) has more than two end shoulder portions. Therefore, this invention is novel in view of Adelman, and applicant believes that the rejection of claim 1 has been rendered moot.

In addition, the joint disclosed by Desard has only two ends, the recesses (65, 66, 62, 63), bear studs (67) and an orifice (68) (lines 14 to 21 on page 4, Figs. 9a and 9b). The joint of Desard does not disclose four sides and three or more connecting portions formed respectively on sides of the body as the present invention does. Therefore, the claimed invention is not disclosed by Desard, and Applicant believes that the rejection of claim 1 has been rendered moot.

In view of the fact that the rejection of the generic claim has been rendered moot, rejoinder of withdrawn claims 5-8, 10, 12, 14 and 15 is hereby requested.

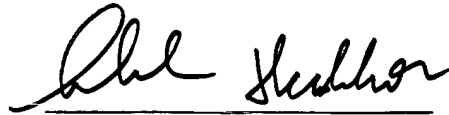
CONCLUSION

The rejection of claims 1 has been rendered moot. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case, wherein all the pending claims, including those withdrawn by the previous election, i.e., claims 1, 5-8, 10, 12, and 14-16 be allowed (the Examiner may amend the claims by Examiner's Amendment to delete reference to the "do-it-yourself" feature).

Please charge any fees necessary for consideration of the papers filed herein and refund excess payments to Deposit Account No. 50-2929.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the undersigned may be contacted at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Chin-Pei LIN

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abraham HersHKovitz', written over a horizontal line.

Abraham HersHKovitz
Reg. No. 45,294

June 8, 2006
HERSHKOVITZ & ASSOCIATES
1725 I STREET, NW
SUITE 300
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

703-323-9330 (voice)
703-323-6617 (fax)

patent@hershkovitz.net